

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

UNCLAS ROME 1399

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.) PFOR, IT, VT
SUBJ: POPE'S WELCOMING REMARKS TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE

1. POPE PAUL VI MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT DURING AUDIENCE
WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE:
2. QUOTE MR. VICE PRESIDENT,

WE ARE HAPPY TO EXTEND A CORDIAL WELCOME TO YOU AND TO
THOSE WHO ACCOMPANY YOU ON YOUR VISIT IN EUROPE.

AT THE MOMENT IN WHICH THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES HAS BEGUN HIS TERM OF OFFICE, HE HAS
CHARGED YOU WITH THE IMPORTANT MISSION OF MAKING CONTACTS
AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE INTENTION OF OBTAINING FURTHER
ELEMENTS FOR JUDGING AND EVALUATING THE INTERNATIONAL POLICY
OF THE UNITED STATES, A COUNTRY WHOSE POLICY HAS GREAT REPER-
CUSSIONS AND IS THEREFORE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE ENTIRE
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WORLD. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THIS POLICY IS BASED ON THE
DESIRE TO PROMOTE PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

THE HOLY SEE, WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE MOTIVATED NOT BY POLITICAL
CONSIDERATIONS BUT BY MORAL AND RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES, RE-
GARDS THESE AS MORALLY WORTHY AIMS, FOR WHICH IT EXPRESSES
ITS SUPPORT IN THE MEASURE AND WAYS THAT ARE PROPER TO IT.

IN OUR RECENT MESSAGE FOR THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE WE MADE
THE APPEAL: "IF YOU WANT PEACE, DEFEND LIFE." WE ARE
CONVINCED THAT EVERYTHING THAT WOUNDS, WEAKENS
AND DISHONORS LIFE WILL DESTROY PEACE AND DEGRADE HUMANITY.
AND IT IS THUS WITH OPTIMISM THAT WE NOTE THE COMMITMENT
OF YOUR PRESIDENT IN FAVOR OF THE REDUCTION OF WEAPONS,
PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE ARE SURE THAT THIS WILL
PROMOTE COMMON INTERESTS AND BE OF IMMENSE SERVICE TO THE
WORLD.

YOU HAVE JUST BEEN CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF YOUR NATION-
HOOD. AT EVERY TURN THIS EVENT SPOKE TO YOU OF THOSE MORAL
VALUES ON WHICH AMERICA WAS FOUNDED. IT IS OUR FERVENT HOPE
THAT THIS GREAT SPIRITUAL HERITAGE WILL BE PROTECTED AND
REINFORCED, FOR THE PEACE AND INTEGRAL
DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR OWN COUNTRY AND ALL HUMANITY.

WE ARE PLEASED ONCE AGAIN TO SEND OUR GOOD WISHES TO
PRESIDENT CARTER, AND WE PRAY THAT THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS
TO "LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS" WILL
BELONG FOREVER TO AMERICA AS "ONE NATION UNDER GOD."
UNQUOTE.

3. VATICAN ALSO ISSUED COMMUNIQUE REGARDING VICE PRESIDENT'S
VISIT WITH THE POPE WHICH WE ARE SENDING SEPTTEL.BEAUDRY

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